

**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
VALUE ADDED FINANCE AUTHORITY  
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING  
February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018**

The South Dakota Value Added Finance Authority (VAFA) board held its regularly scheduled meeting and public hearings on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, at the SDDA Conference Room, Third Floor, Foss Building, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota.

**Board Members Present:**

Bob Hull, Chairman  
Chuck Jepson  
Marcia Hendrickson  
Jim Doolittle

**Board Members Absent:**

Jim Schmidt  
Mark Gross, Vice Chairman  
Nathan Jensen

**Staff Present:**

Terri LaBrie, Executive Director VAFA, Kimberly Sturm, SDDA Grant and Loan Specialist

**Others Present:** Matt Henley, beginning farmer; Zachary Schmidt, Great Western Bank

**Call to Order:** Chairman Hull opened the meeting at 8:01 a.m. CT and asked for roll call. A quorum was present.

**Agenda:** Chairman Hull asked for any additions to the agenda. None were mentioned

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Jim Doolittle and seconded by Chuck Jepson. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes dated January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 was made by Chuck Jepson and seconded by Jim Doolittle. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**Matthew Henley BFBP #2-0085 Public Hearing and Resolution B:** Ms. LaBrie informed the board a Notice of Public hearing was published in the Britton Journal newspaper on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for a Beginning Farmer Bond for Matthew Henley. Mr. Henley has applied for a beginning farmer bond to purchase 125.445 acres of land in Marshall County. No written public comments were received by staff. No oral comments were made at the hearing either for or against the project. Matt Henley discussed his project and offered to answer any questions from the board. Ms. LaBrie indicated the applicant meets the eligibility of the program and the application was approved at the January 2018 meeting. LaBrie identified the terms of the bond and recommended the board approve the bond issue up to \$509,600 and pass Resolution B.

A motion to approve staff recommendation to approve the bond and pass Resolution B was made by Chuck Jepson and seconded by Jim Doolittle. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**Gavin & Elizabeth Waletich BFBP #2-0086 Public Hearing and Resolution B:** Ms. LaBrie informed the board a Notice of Public hearing was published in the Britton Journal newspaper on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for a Beginning Farmer Bond for Gavin & Elizabeth Waletich. They have applied for a beginning farmer bond to purchase 279 acres of land in Marshall County. No written public

comments were received by staff. No oral comments were made at the hearing either for or against the project. Ms. LaBrie indicated the applicant meets the eligibility of the program and the application was approved at the January 2018 meeting. LaBrie identified the terms of the bond and recommended the board approve the bond issue up to \$341,700 and pass Resolution B.

A motion to approve staff recommendation to approve the bond and pass Resolution B was made by Jim Doolittle and seconded by Marcia Hendrickson. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**Dakota Prairie Pork LLC. #6-0031 Application and Resolution A:** Ms. LaBrie informed the board Dakota Prairie Pork LLC. owned by Luke Hurley from Canton SD is applying for a Livestock Nutrient Management bond up to \$400,000 to construct a 2,400 head wean to finish hog confinement building in Lincoln County. Zachary Schmidt from Great Western Bank was on the line to answer questions and shared some background information on the applicant with the board. Ms. LaBrie informed the board the applicant and project meets all the qualifying criteria and recommended the board approve the application and pass Resolution A. A public hearing will likely be held during the March 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.

A motion to approve staff recommendation was made by Chuck Jepson and seconded by Marcia Hendrickson. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**Executive Director Report:** Ms. LaBrie informed the board they are making progress on a possible board commissioned VASF study on the Livestock industry feed mill and there will be more information to come at the next meeting. Ms. LaBrie also urged the board members to be on the call next month to listen to Tim Engel, VAFA attorney, describe how a recent Supreme Court decision could impact livestock development projects in the state as they relate to the VAFA financial programs.

The next VAFA meeting is scheduled for March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 via conference call.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jim Doolittle and seconded by Marcia Hendrickson. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote and the meeting adjourned at 8:23 a.m. CT.

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Bob Hull, VAFA Chairman

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Date